[Mr. E. P. Varghese.]

(*b*) the number of applications disposed of by the Protector of the Depressed Classes during the same period ;

(*c*) the number of persons to whom lands have been assigned during the same period ; and

(*d*) the area of land thus assigned during the period ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : (*a*) The number of applications for lands received during the year 1108, 1110 and 1111 up to the 1st Meenam are 190, 259 and 100 respectively.

(*b*) The numbers disposed of are 54, 214 and 54 respectively.

(*c*) Information is not available.

(*d*) 139 acres and $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents in 1109 and 80 acres and $21\frac{1}{4}$ cents in 1110.

Information regarding the lands assigned till 1st Meenam 1111 is not available.

Buses and eight-seaters plying for hire.

254. *Mr. **M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the buses and eight-seaters plying for hire in the State are being tested by any Government authority ;

(*b*) if so, by whom, and at what intervals ; and

(*c*) whether buses and eight-seaters which are more than 12 years old are permitted to ply for hire in the State ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) By the Traffic Inspector of Police once in six months.

(*c*) Yes, if found fit.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : With regard to the answer to part (*b*), may I know from the member whether the Traffic Inspectors have got expert qualification in Mechanical Engineering ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : I think they have got sufficient qualification to test buses.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know from the member what that sufficient qualification is ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : They are people who have had training in motor mechanics.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know whether they have got any diploma in mechanical engineering or any other branch of science just to enable them to test the buses ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : They have enough qualification to test buses. I cannot say whether they possess any diploma or not.

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Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know who those Inspectors are and what their qualifications are ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai. I claim notice.

Mr. M N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether this inspection was being conducted once in three months previously?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Probably so.

Mr. M N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know why that was changed into once in six months ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai; The department thought that it would be enough to examine the buses once in six months.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know from the member whether it is not advantageous to examine the buses once in three months ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: It may be advantageous to examine them once in three months or even oftener but the practicability of it has also to be considered.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: With regard to the answer to part (*c*), may I know how many buses which are more than 12 years old are now allowed to run ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I cannot give the exact number, but I may say that only those buses which are found fit are allowed to ply.

Use of powerful and intense lights in motor vehicles.

255. ***Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether any rule has been prescribed by the Commissioner of Police under the Motor Vehicles Regulation prohibiting the use of powerful and intense lights without the same being properly hooded or screened ; and, if so, whether the rule is being enforced now ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know from the member whether this rule is now enforced by the Police Department ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The answer is there already.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether buses that are plying in this town adhere to this rule regarding light ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I should think so.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether any complaints have been received from the public that the buses do not adhere to this rule ?

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